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ISSUE 55

JANUARY 1993

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA

TURTLES



M I R A G E P U B L I S H I N G

CITY AT WAR



PART 6 OF 13

KEVIN EASTMAN/PETER LAIRD
STORY

JIM LAWSON/PETER LAIRD
SCRIPT

JIM LAWSON
PENCILS

KEITH AIKEN
INKS

MARY KELLEHER
LETTERS

ERIC TALBOT
TONES

CHARLES YOAKUM
INKING ASSISTS

Well, winter is here again! As we're writing this, it's only mid-November but we've already had some serious snow fall! Ah, life in New England...

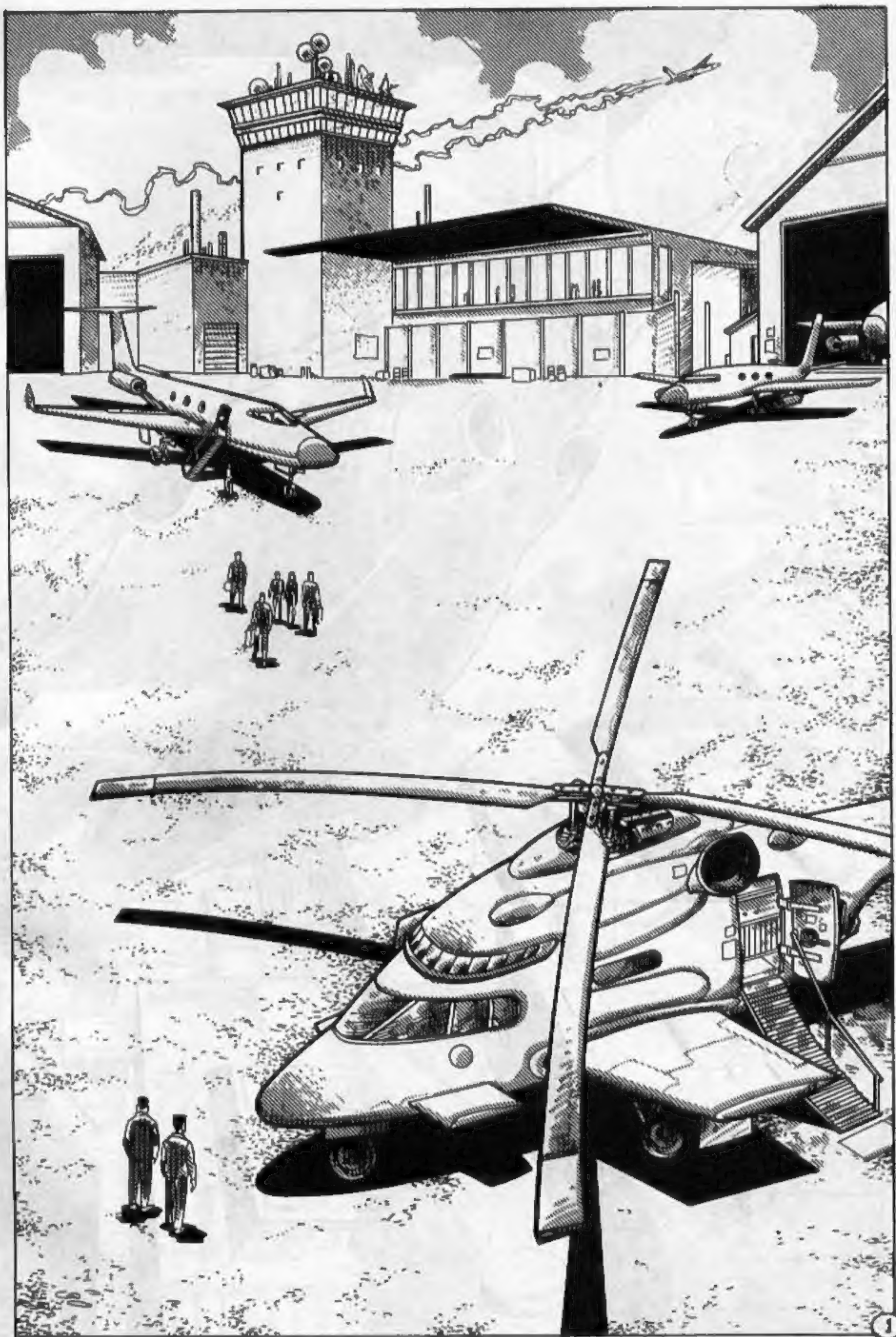
One bright spot that the Mirage crew is looking forward to this season is Fred Greenberg's Great Eastern Convention at the Jacob Javits Center in NYC, January 22 - 24. Fred always runs a fantastic show, and this year it's going to be the biggest one yet! Mirage, along with lots of other publishers, plans to have special give-aways just for the occasion! Come on by and say 'Hi' to the artists and publishing staff at our booth! Speaking of saying hello, please keep those letters coming...yes we do read all the mail!

We've got a handful of books for you to watch for in the next couple of months, and they're all in color! Hold onto your hats as we return once again to the wacked-out world of Rich Hedden and Tom McVeaney, in the full-color TMNT special, "The Maltese Turtle". If you like their stuff in black-and-white, you're gonna love it in color.

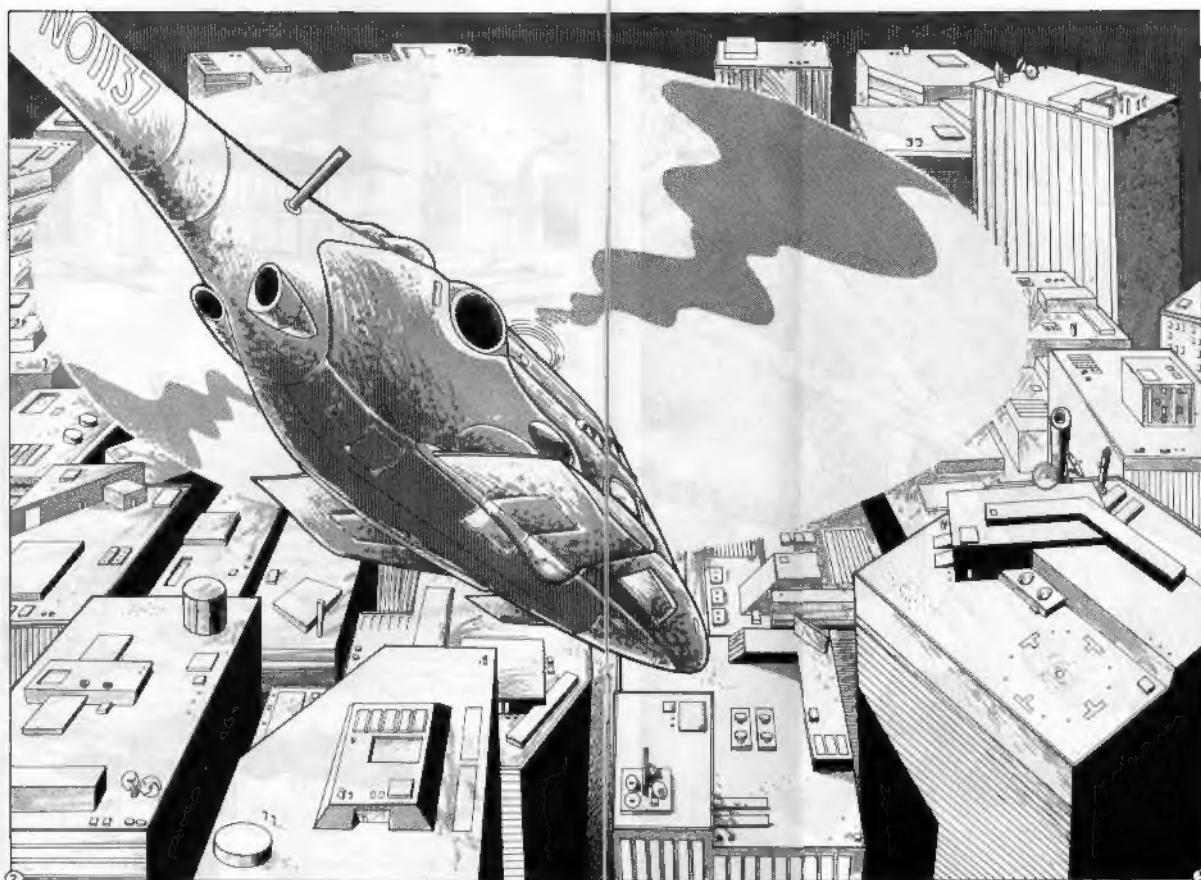
In February, we debut **Dino Island**. This two-part story is written and drawn by our very own Jim Lawson. It's got everything you could ask for in a comic book—a spunky heroine, planes, aliens and lots and lots of dinosaurs with big gnashy teeth...yeah! Then in March, Mirage's first issue of Stan Sakai's **Usagi Yojimbo** premieres in all-new color adventures. Welcome aboard Stan!

That's all for now, "City at War" is chugging along, new books are coming out, life is good!

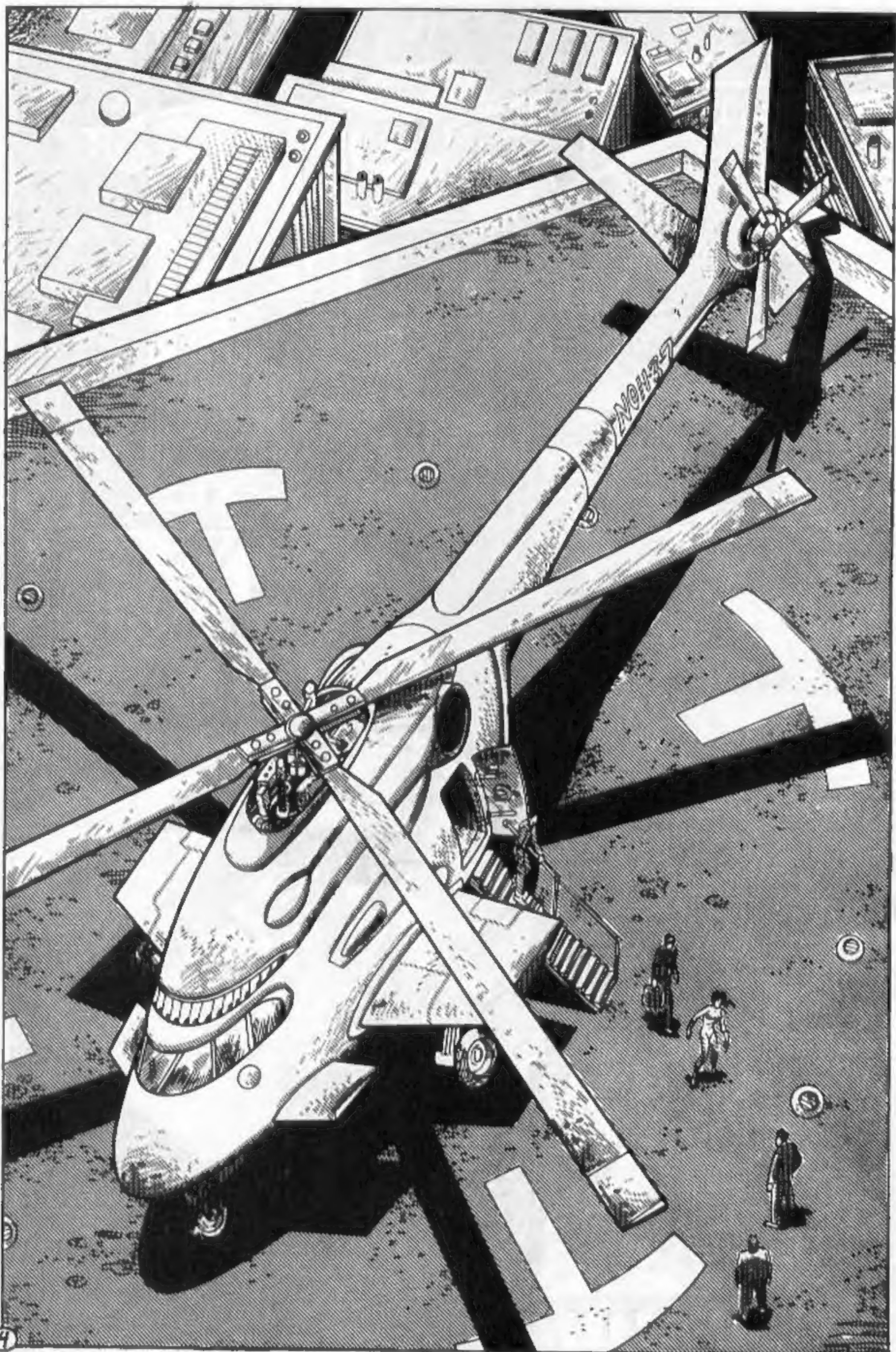
P.S. Make sure to check out all the new items we've added to our mail-order listing on page 30 this month.

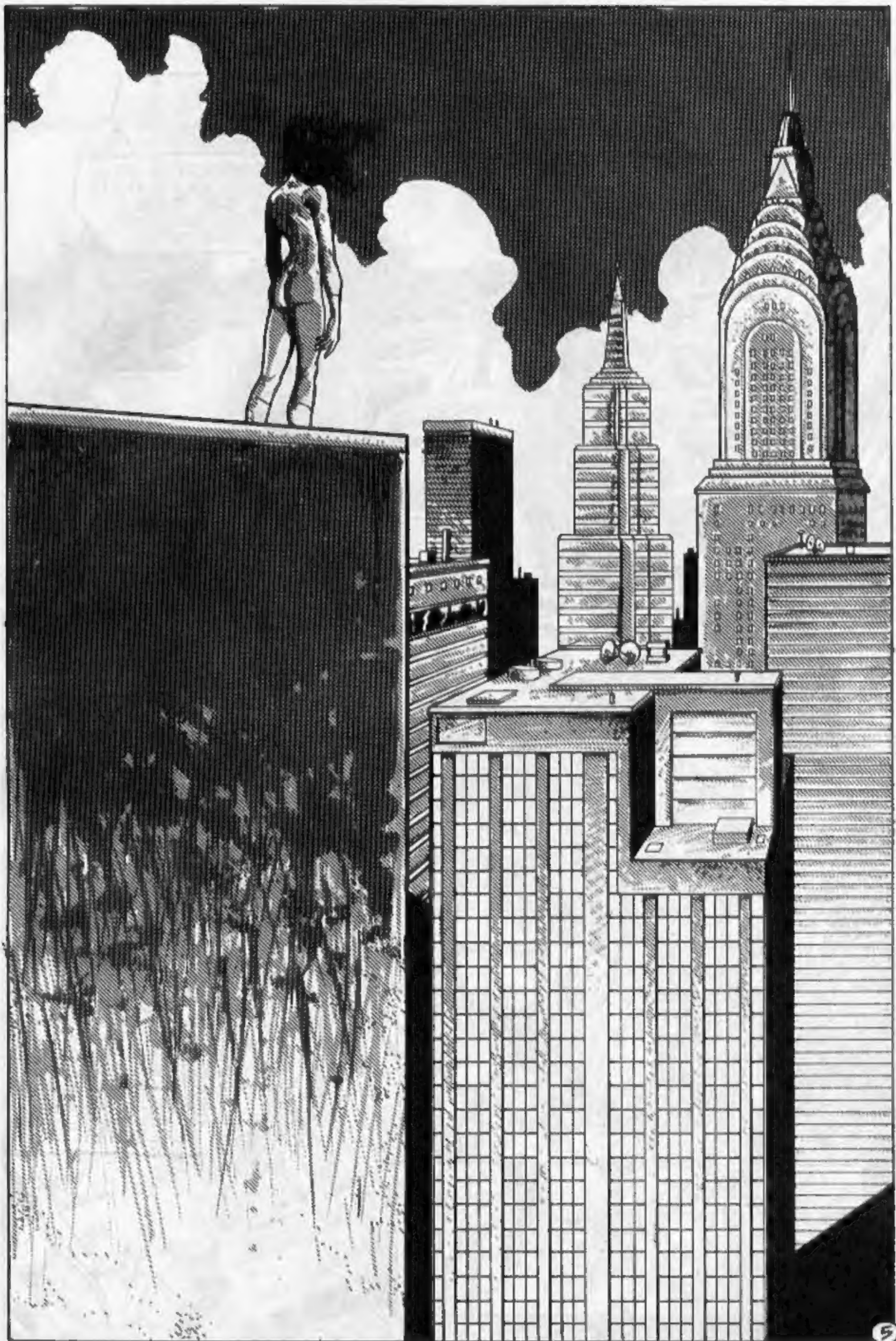















ESTE DESIERTO ES BELLO,
MUY DIFERENTE A
MASSACHUSSETS...

MM SI

DE JOVEN NUNCA ME
PUSE A VER COSAS
COMO ESTA...

SUPONGO QUE CUANDO
CRECES TE TOMAS TU
TIEMPO PARA VER



QUIZAS SEA EL
BEBE

EH?

SI LEI UNO DE
TUS LIBROS DE
BEBE...

Y DICE QUE ESTANDO
EMBARAZADA TE PONES
MAS REFLEXIVA...

EN
SERIO?

MMM



TANTO PENSAR ME DIO
HAMBRE...VOLVAMOS

ANTES DE IRNOS HAY
ALGO QUE QUIERO
PREGUNTARTE...

SI?

ESTUVE PENSANDOLO
MUCHO...

TE CASAS
CONMIGO?

QUE?
CASEY...
DIOS MIO



SI

ESCRIBI UN NUEVO
PROGRAMA...PUEDES ENTRAR
CON UNA CONTRASEÑA

ASI PUEDES
ACCEDER A
TODAS LAS
CUENTAS...ES MUY
FACIL

UN
JUEGO



DIOS!

QUE MIERDA
HICISTE?



VETE AL
CARAJOO!



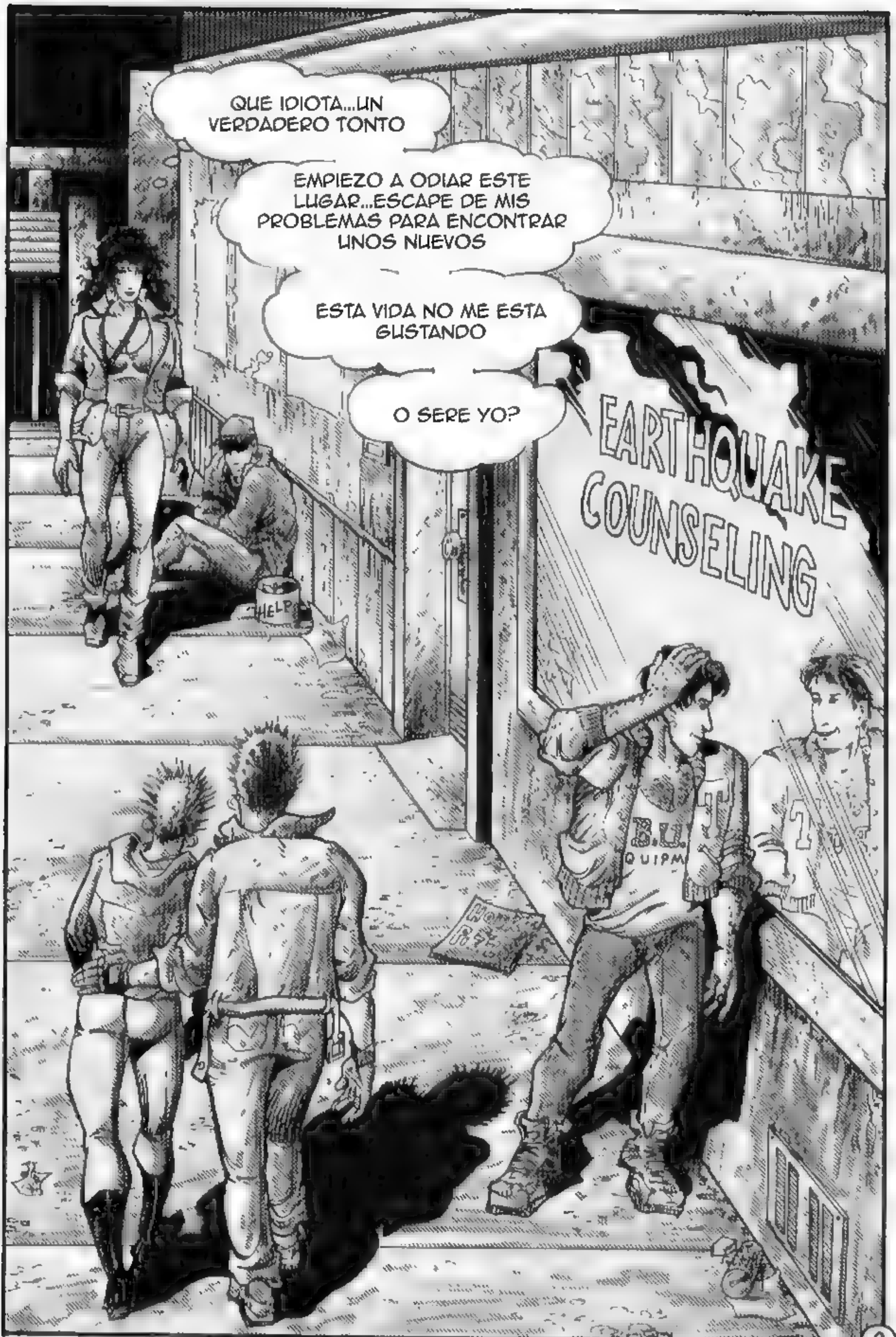
QUE IDIOTA...UN
VERDADERO TONTO

EMPIEZO A ODIAR ESTE
LUGAR...ESCAPE DE MIS
PROBLEMAS PARA ENCONTRAR
UNOS NUEVOS

ESTA VIDA NO ME ESTA
GUSTANDO

O SERE YO?

EARTHQUAKE
COUNSELING



DESPIERTA

EH...

COMIDA

EH?

DEBES
COMER

SI...

NO HAY COMIDA...

COMO
SOBREVIVEN
LAS RATAS?

RATAS?

CARRONEAN...

SI...HACEN LO
NECESARIO

QUIEN ERES?
LA MUERTE?

NO

MUESTRATE...

VERAS
LO QUE
NECE
SITAS

AYUDAME

TU DEBES
AYUDARTE

BASTA DE
ACERTIJOS...

LOS ACERTIJOS
ESTAN EN TI POR NO
SABER LO QUE
BUSCAS...

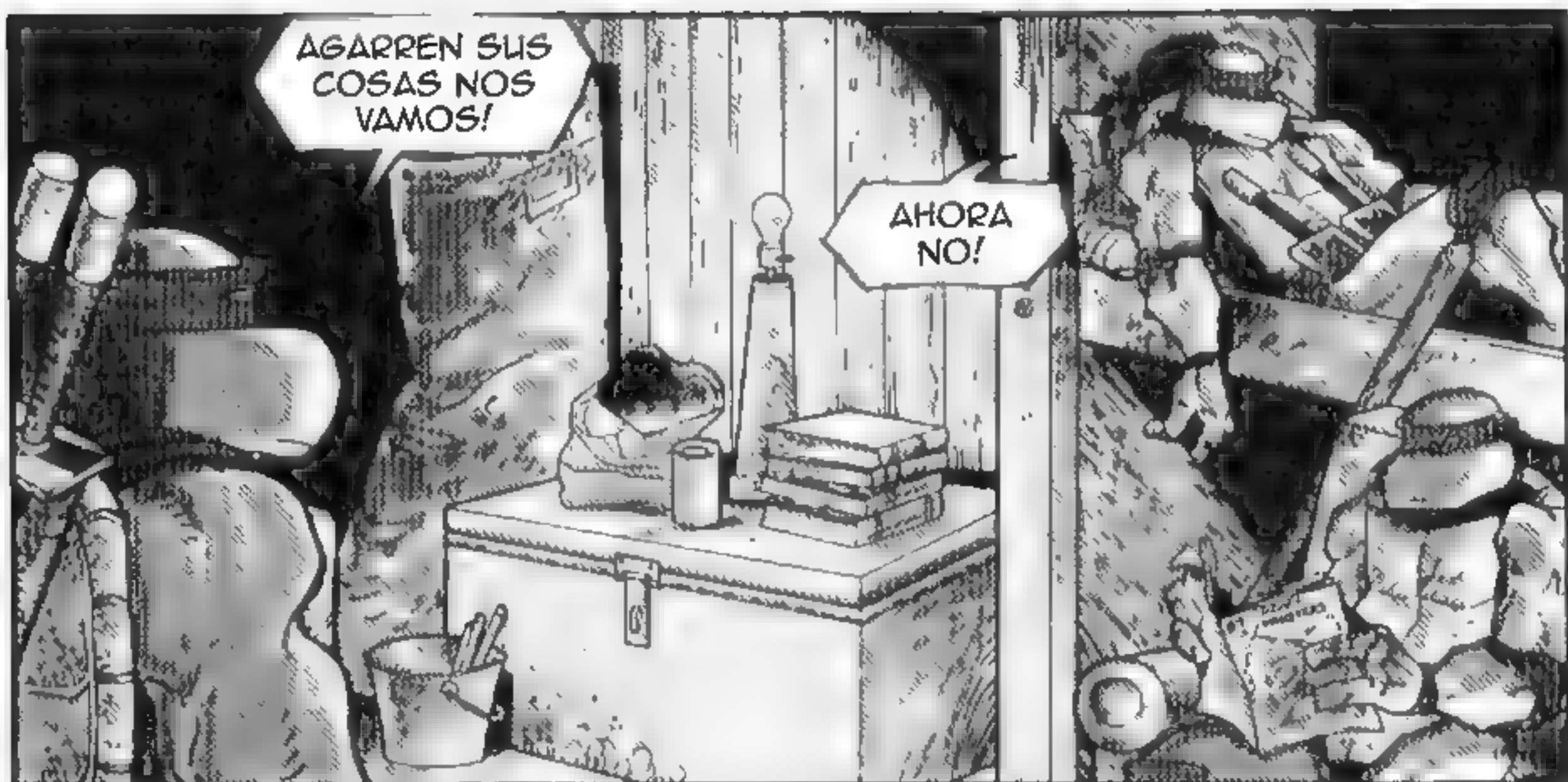
TENGO HAMBRE
Y DOLOR...

MUERTE

NO LO
SOY

PERO LA
CONOZCO...





AGARREN SUS
COSAS NOS
VAMOS!

AHORA
NO!



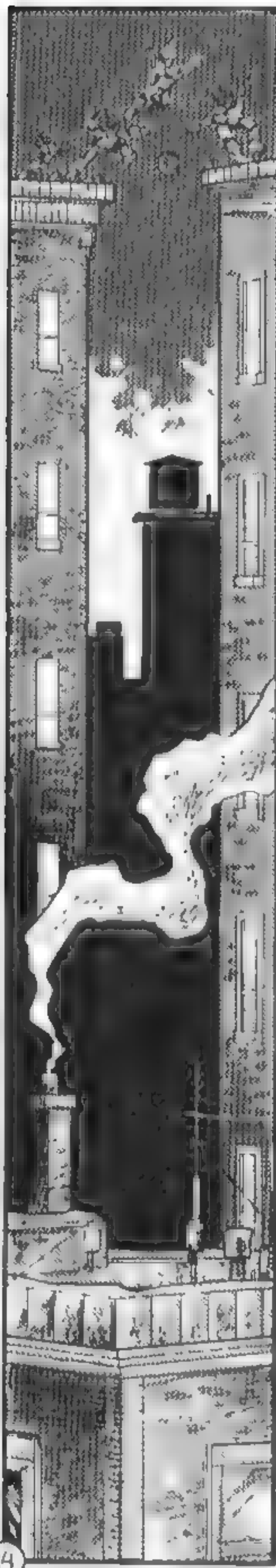
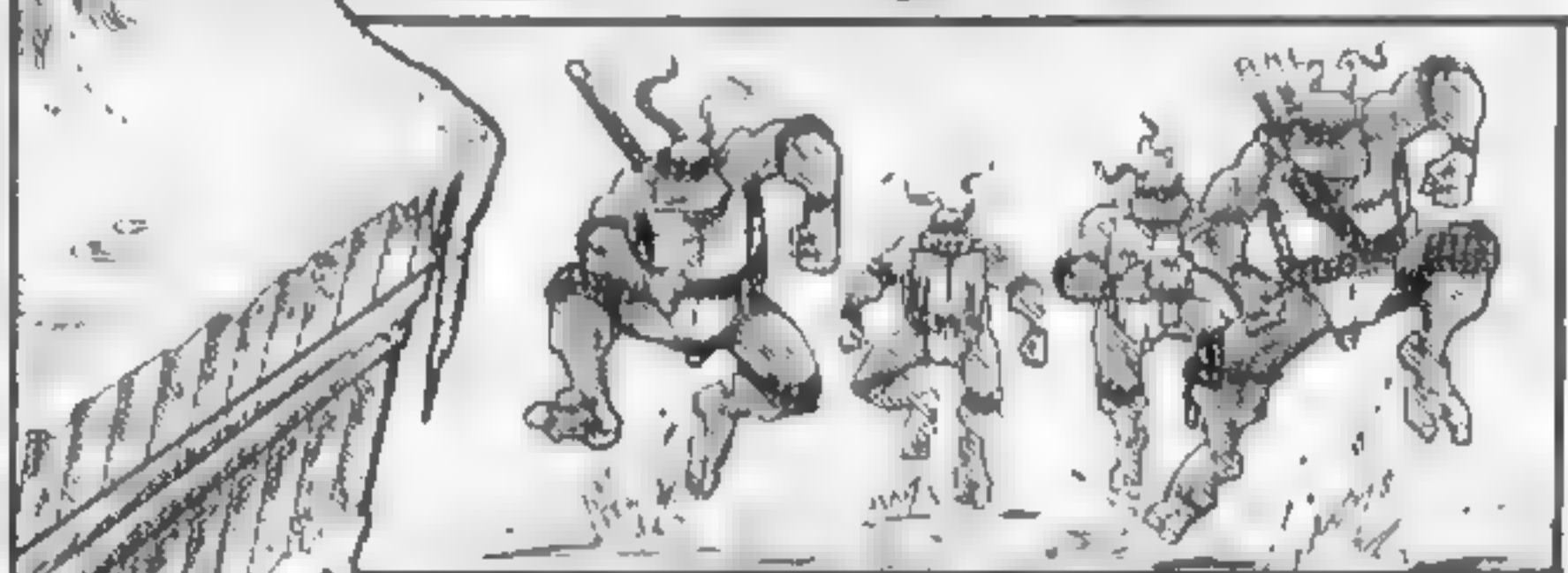
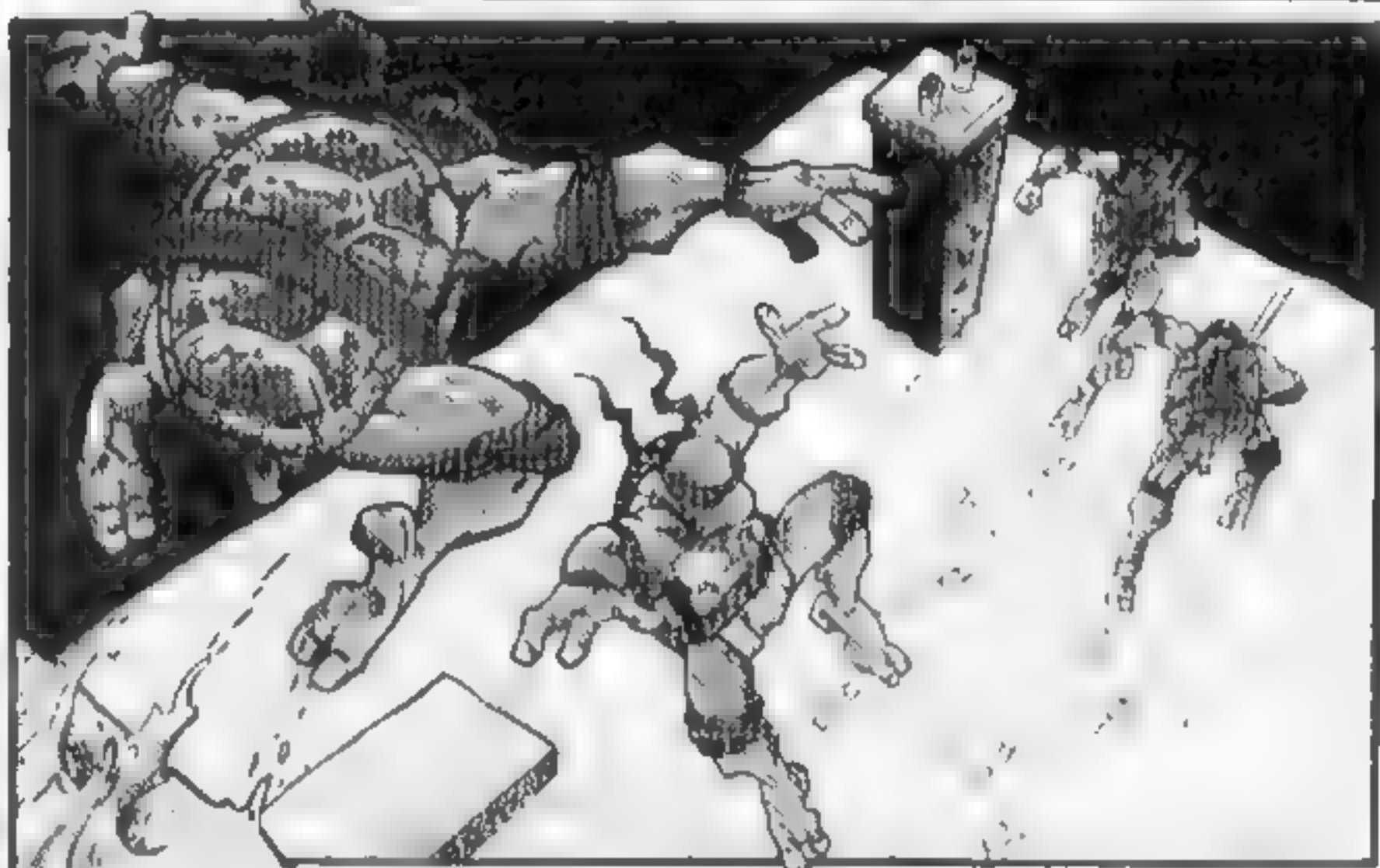
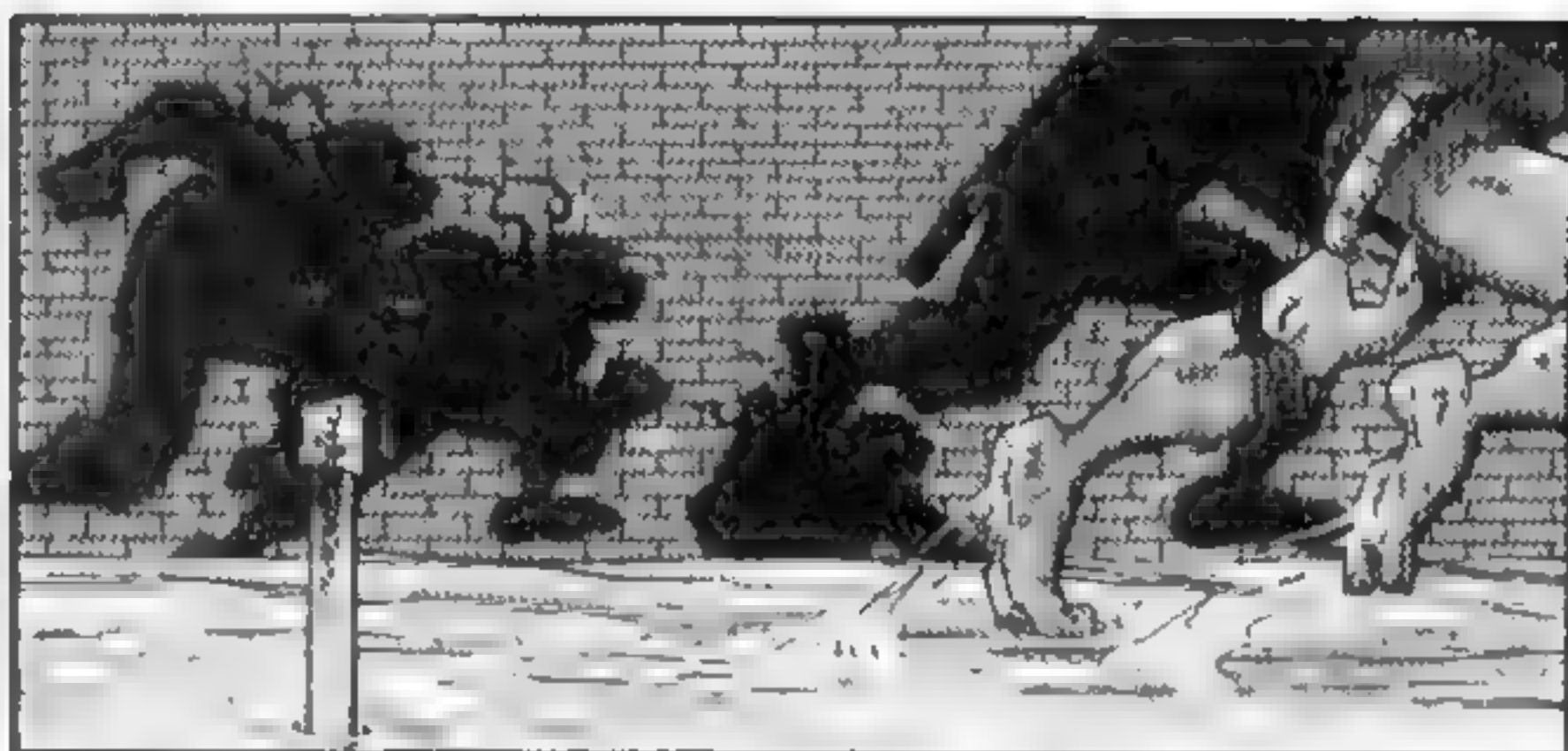
VAMOS RAFA...NO
ES LA GRAN COSA
PERO PEOR ES
CONGELARNOS!

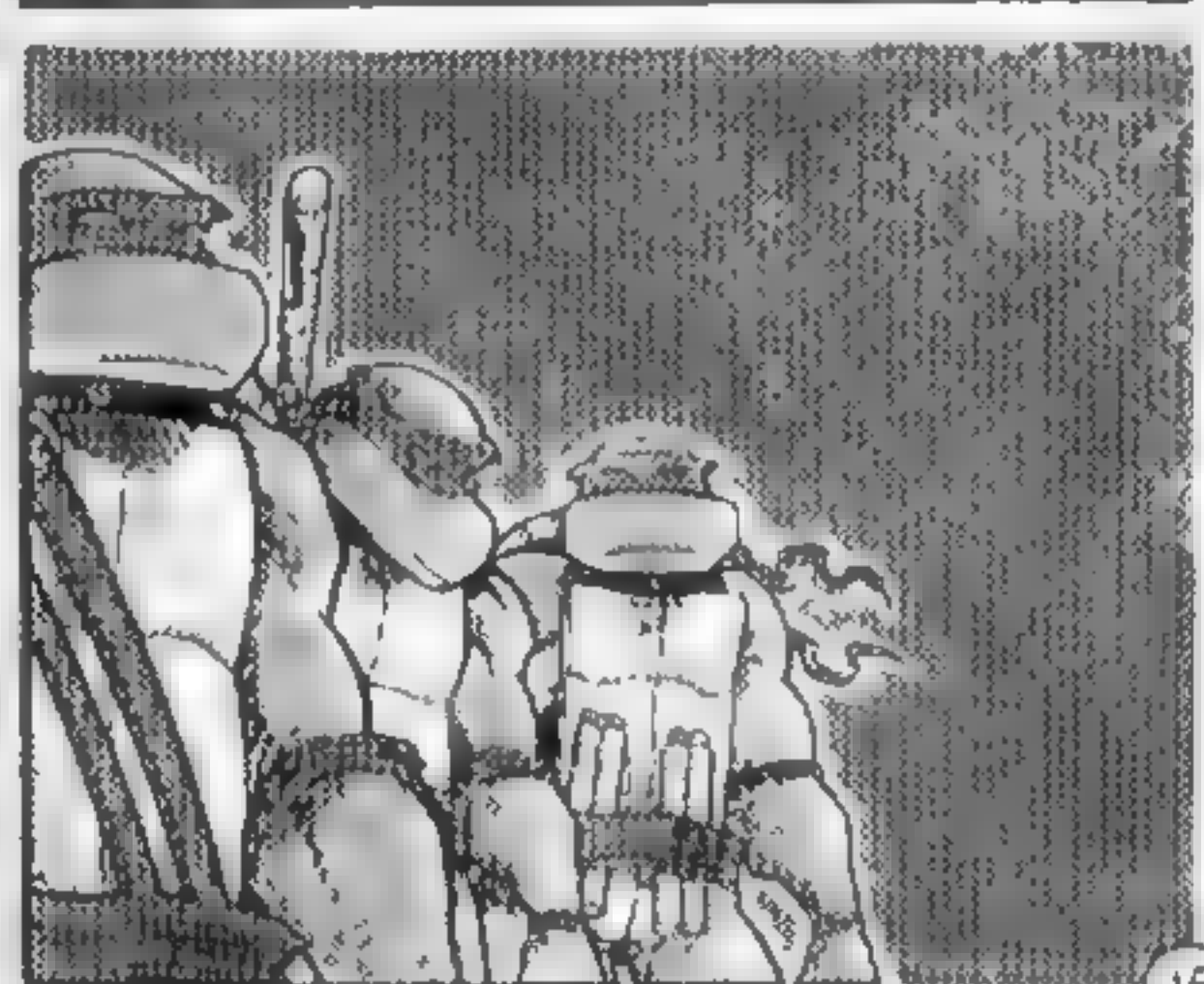
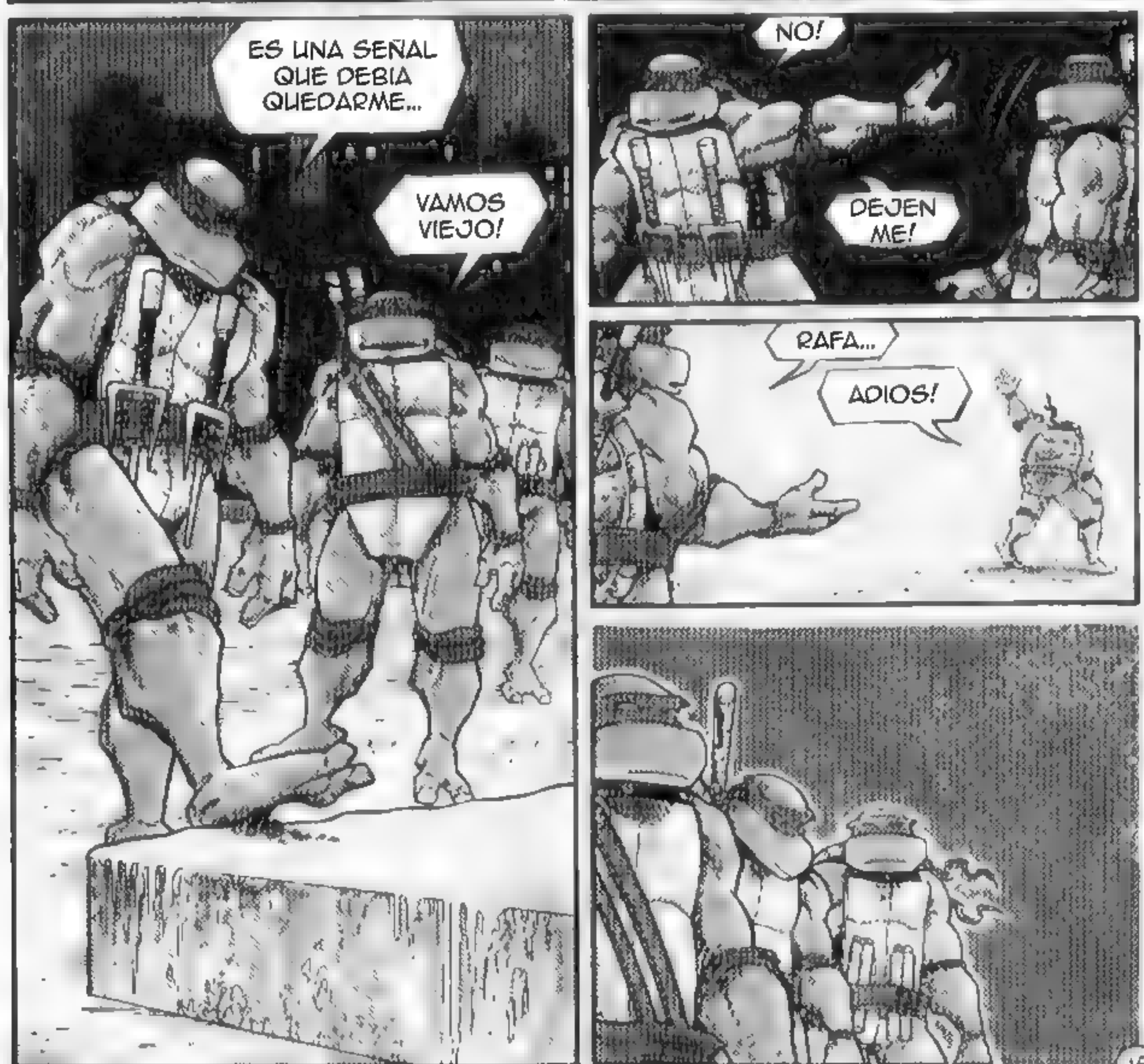
QUIZAS ME GUSTE
CONGELARME...

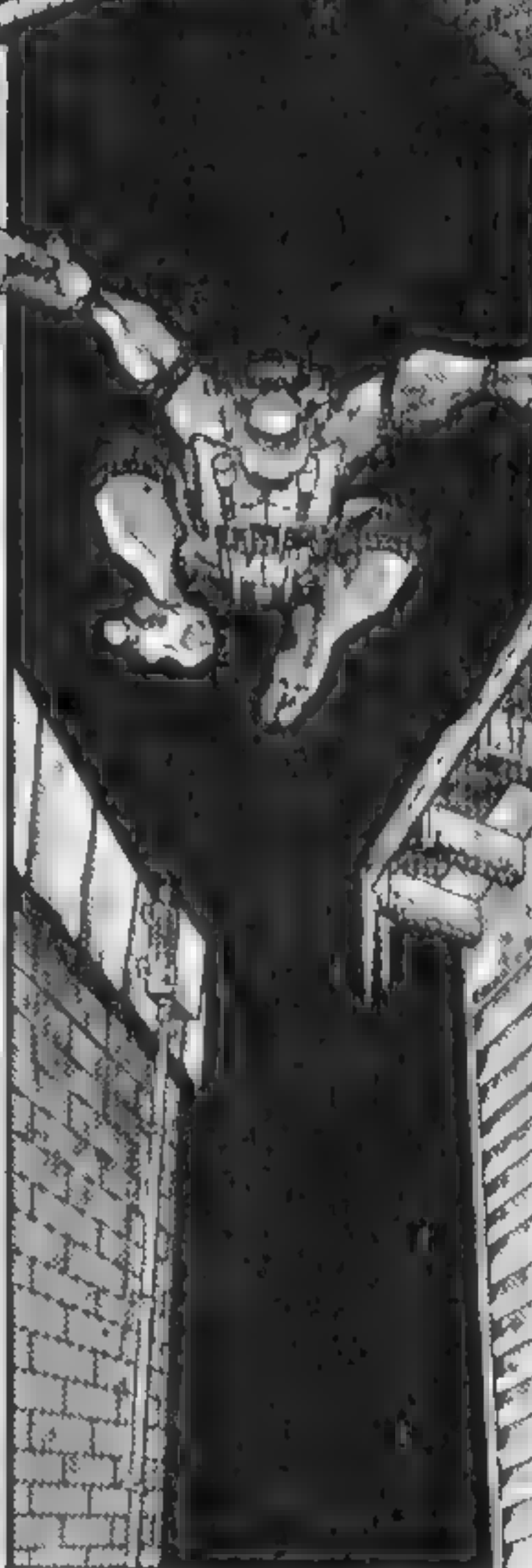
SI PASA!

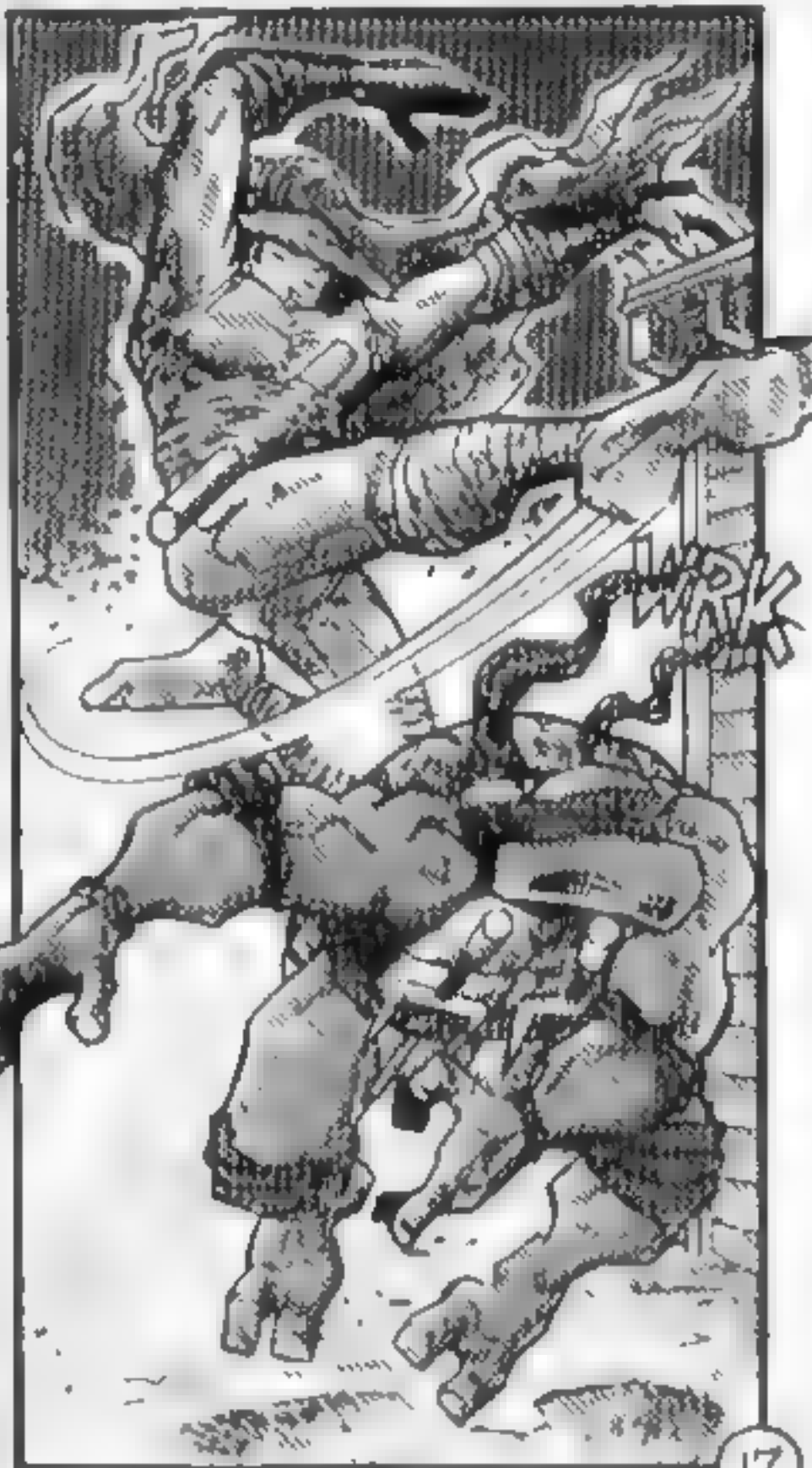
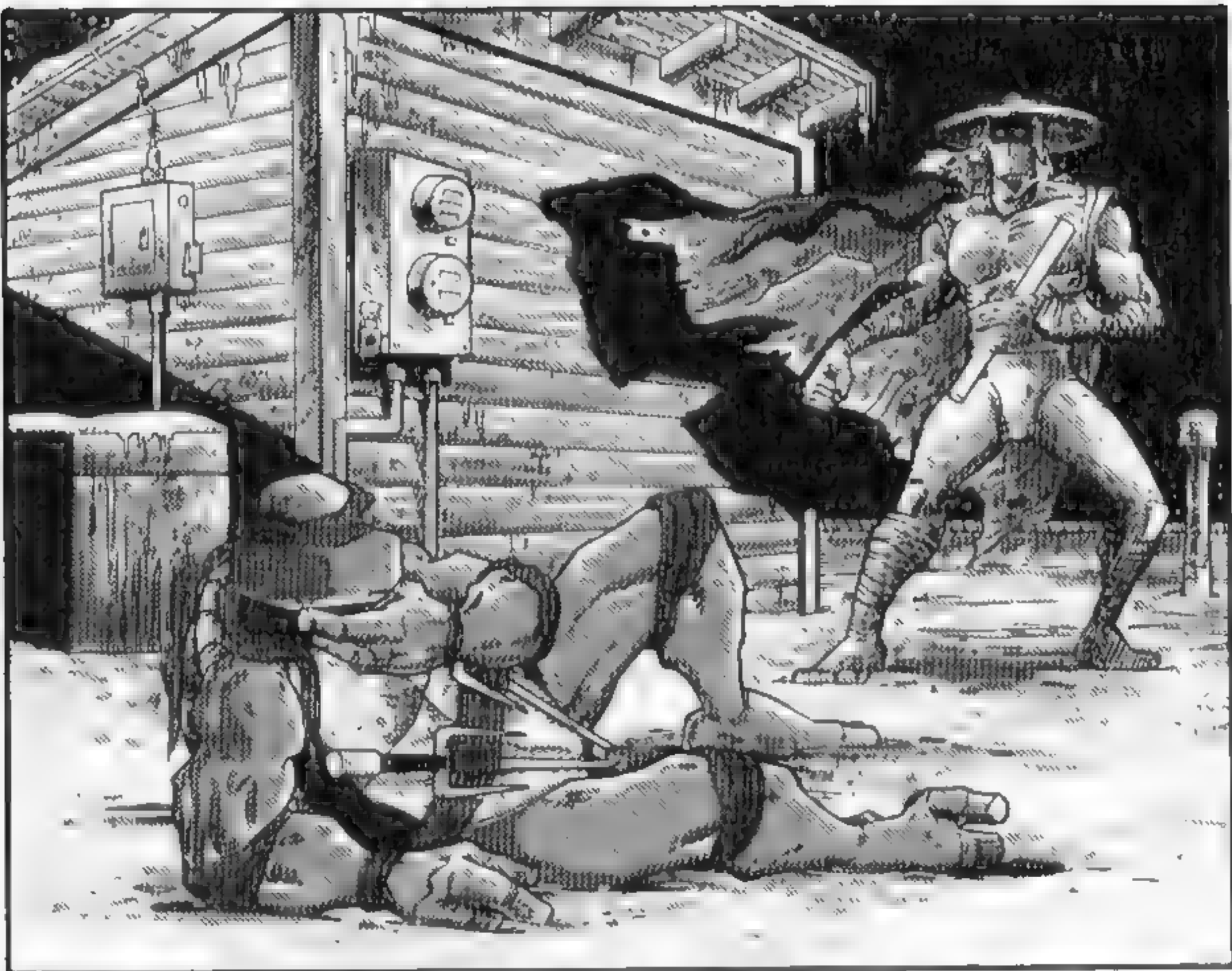
MIERDA

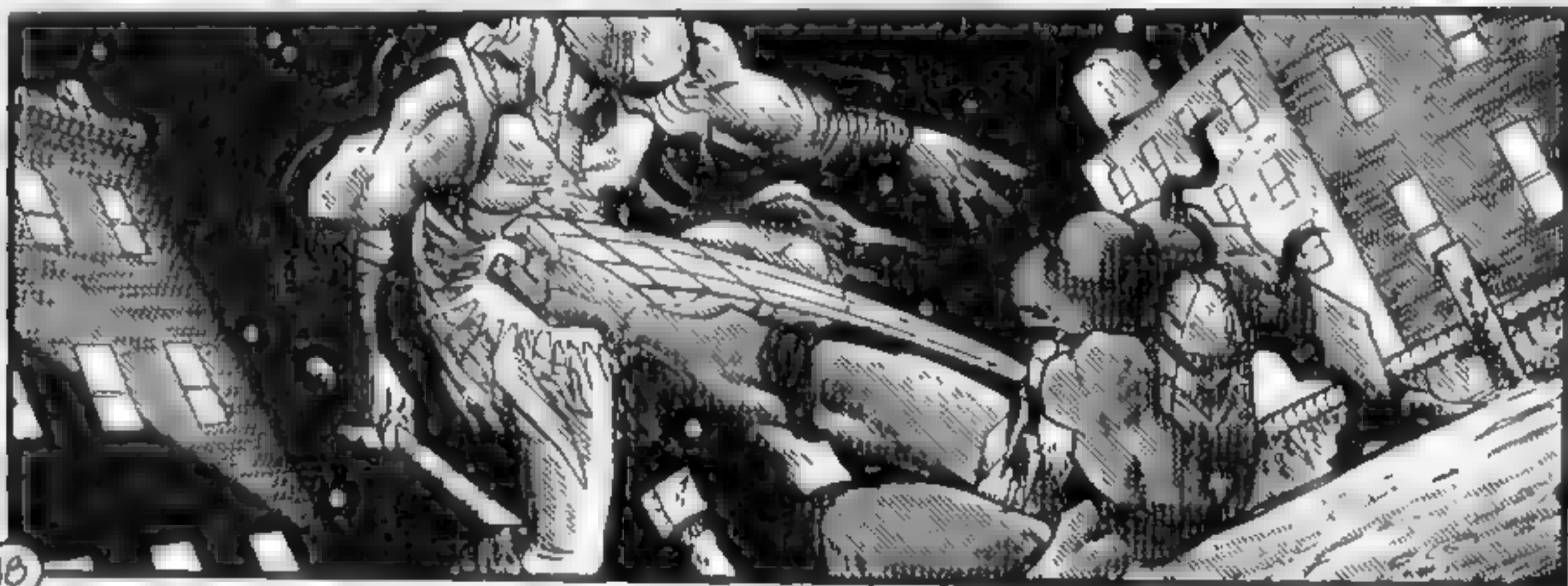
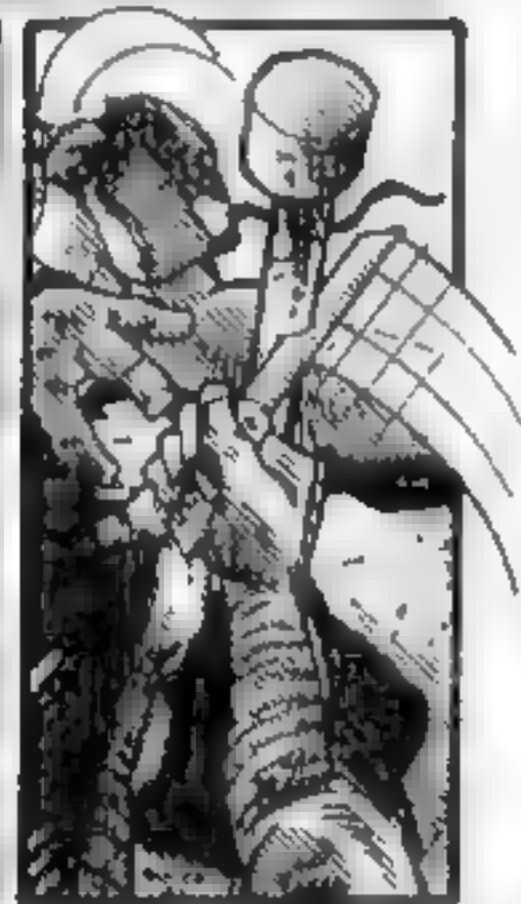
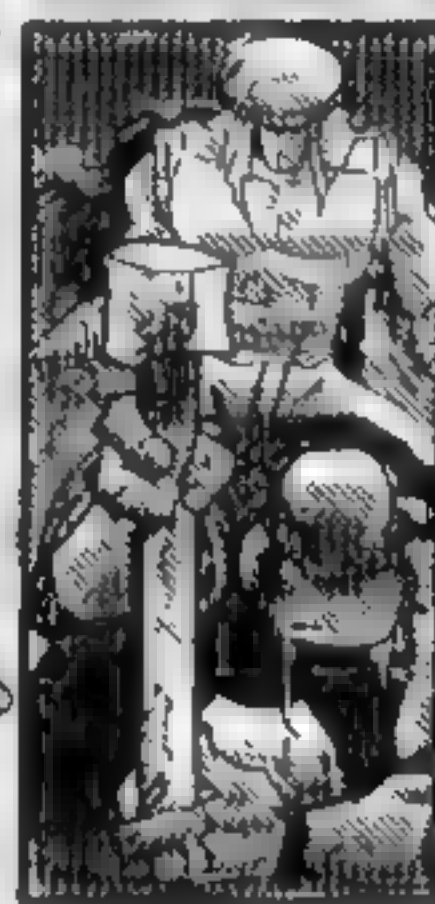
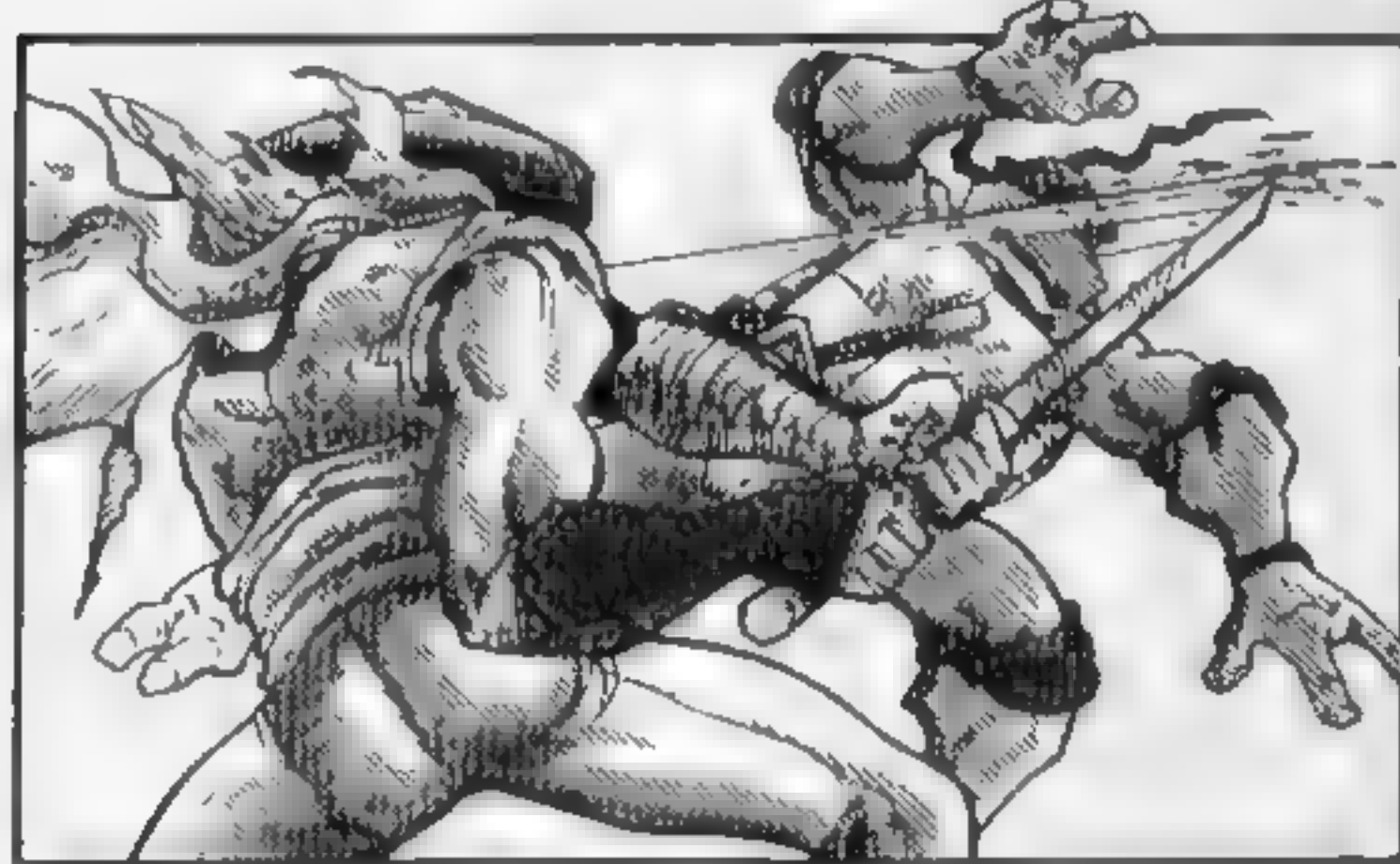
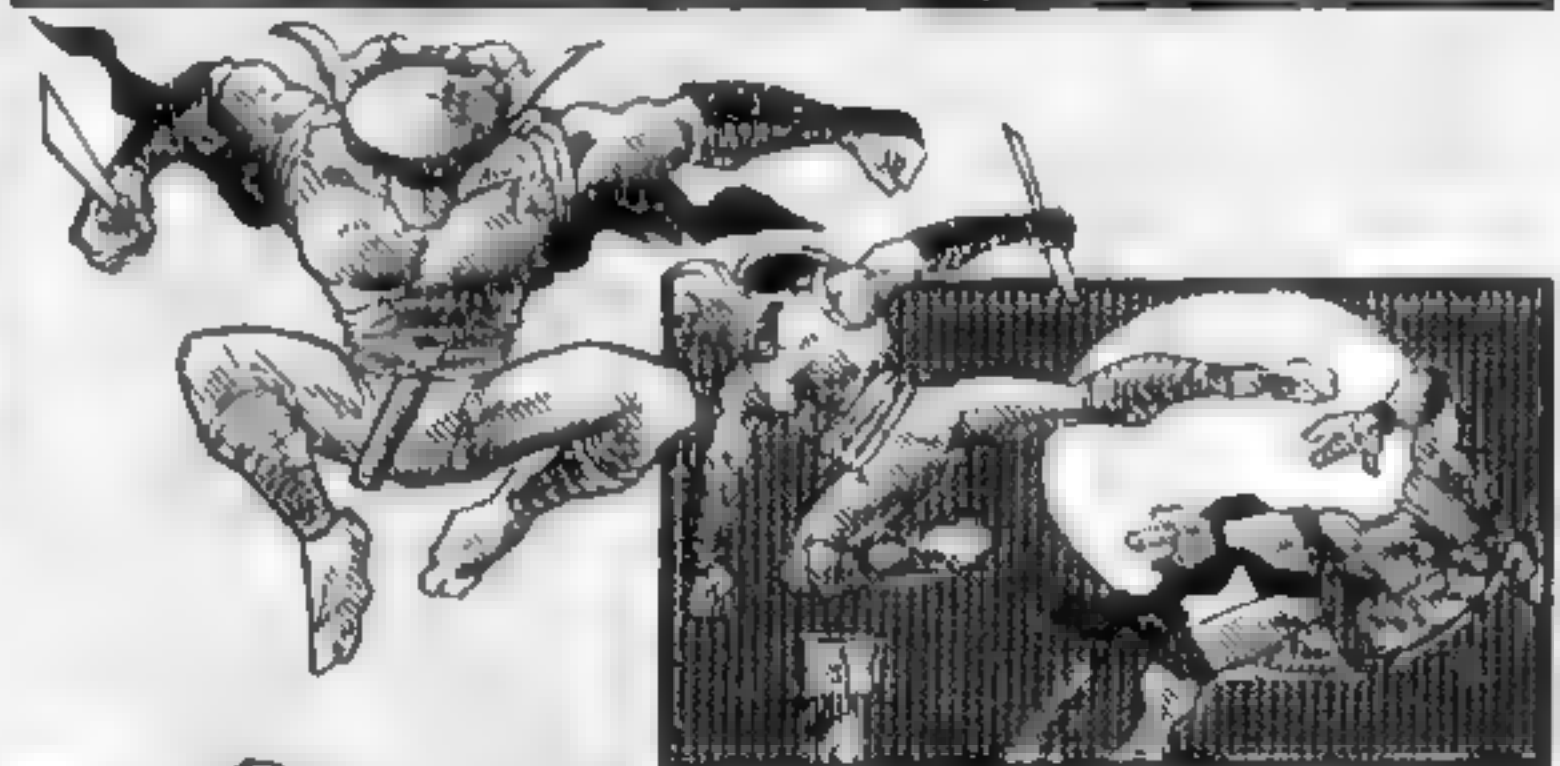
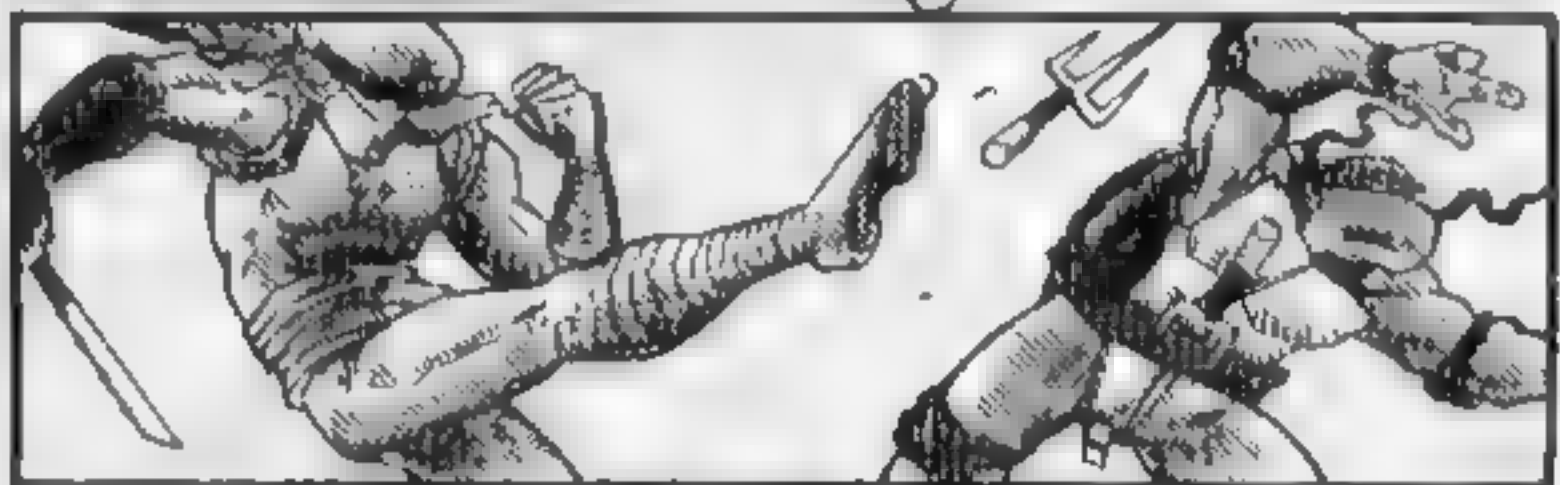
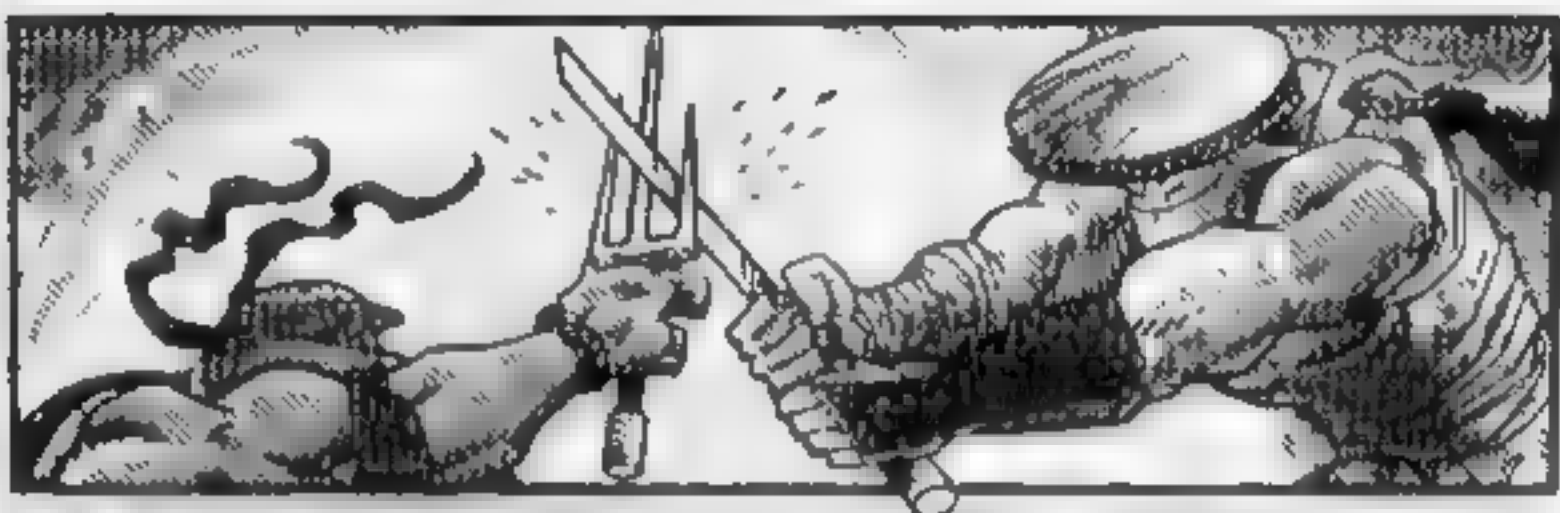
LO ODO

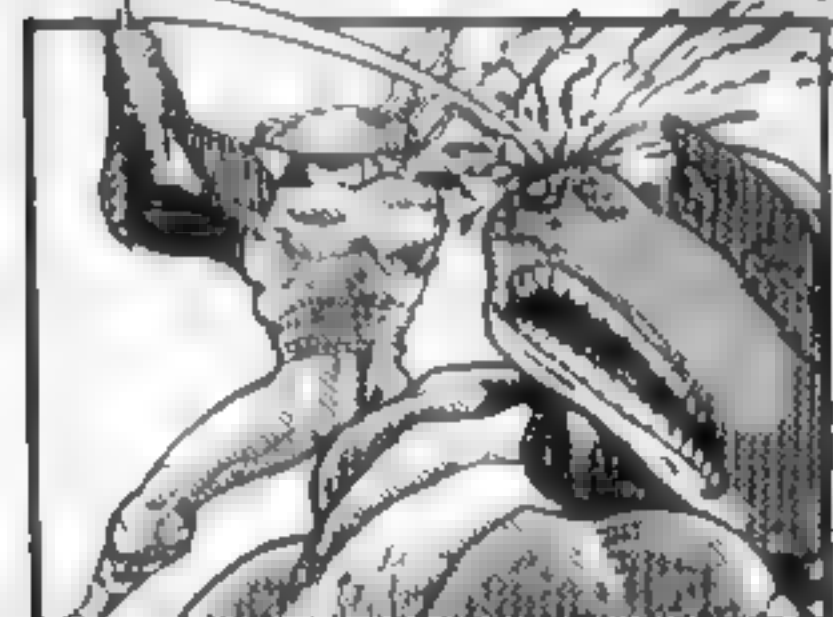
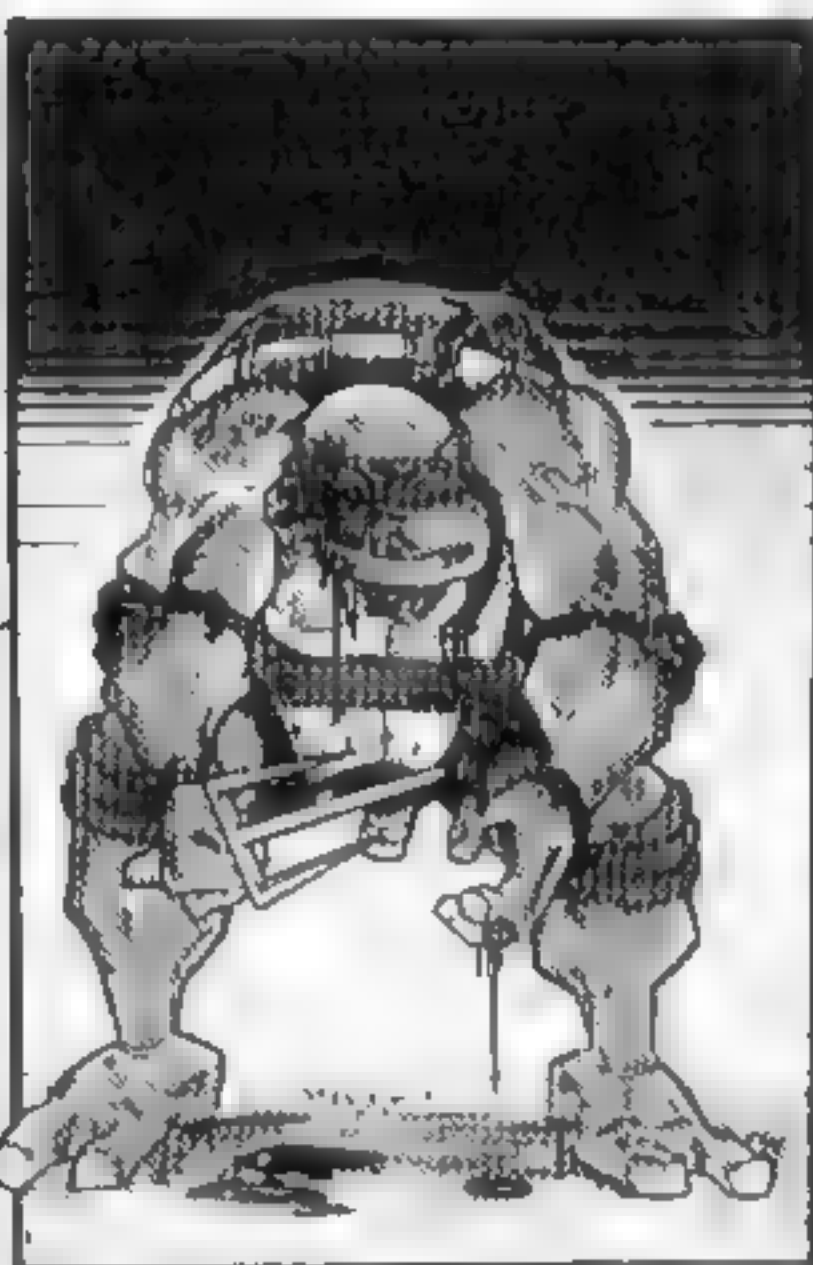
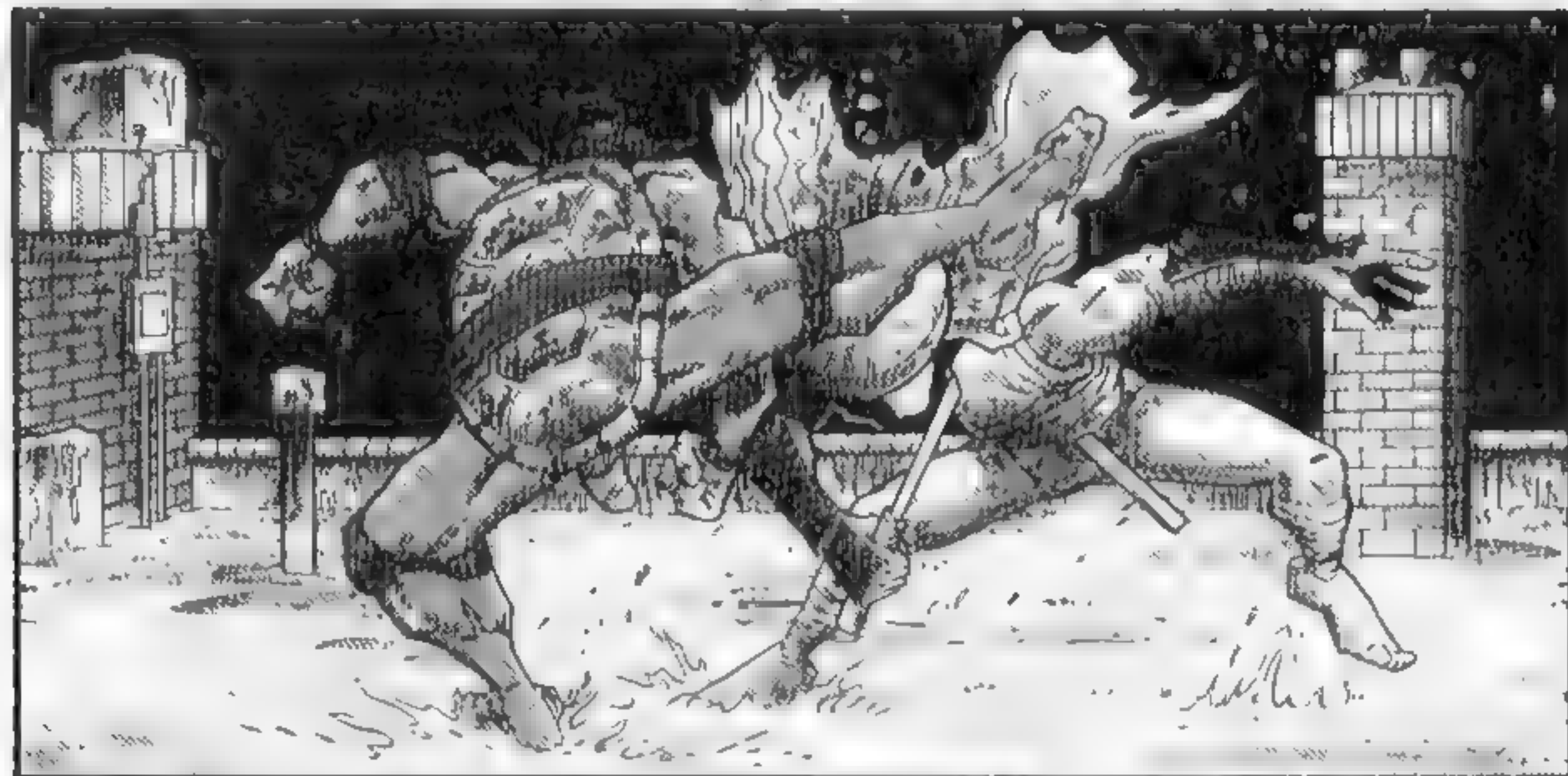
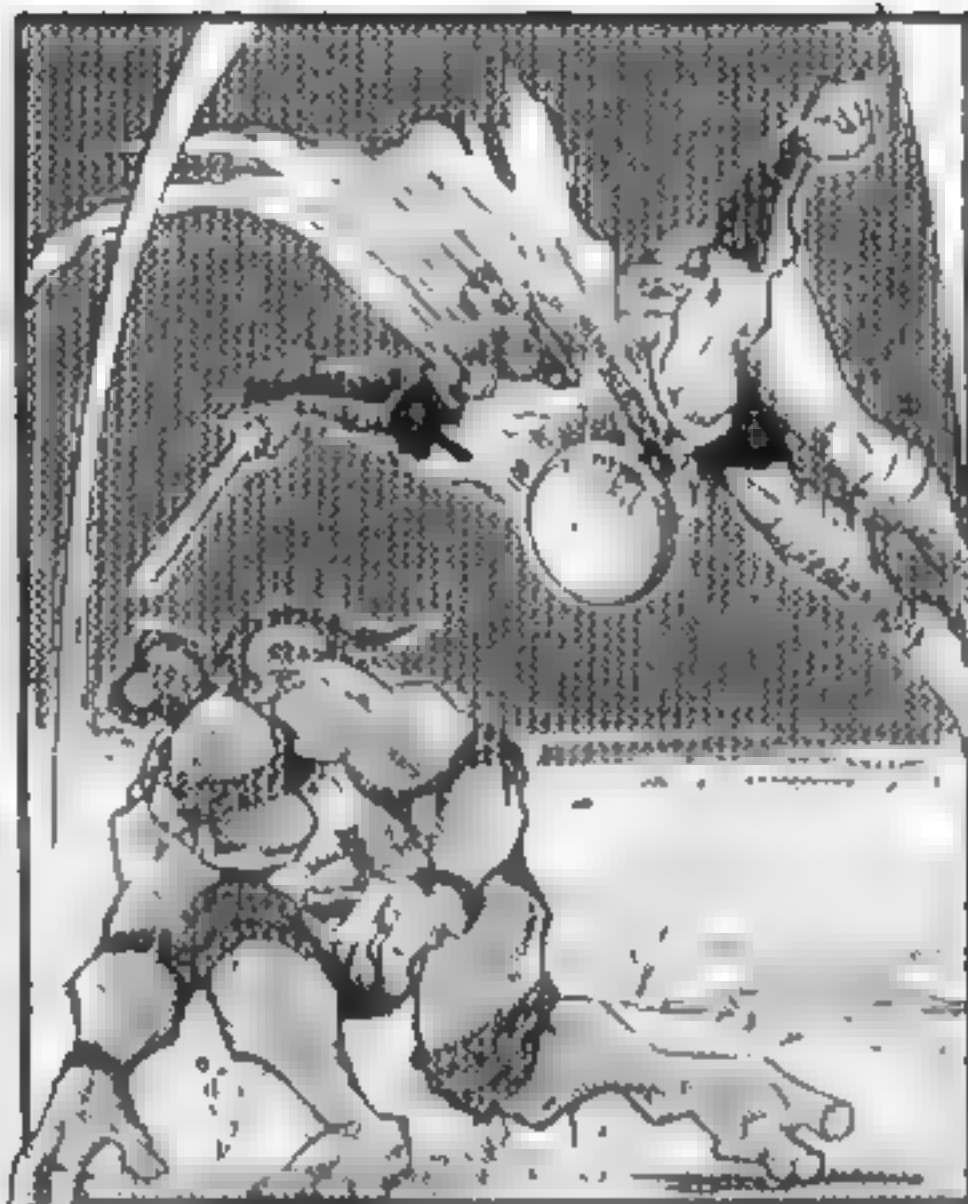
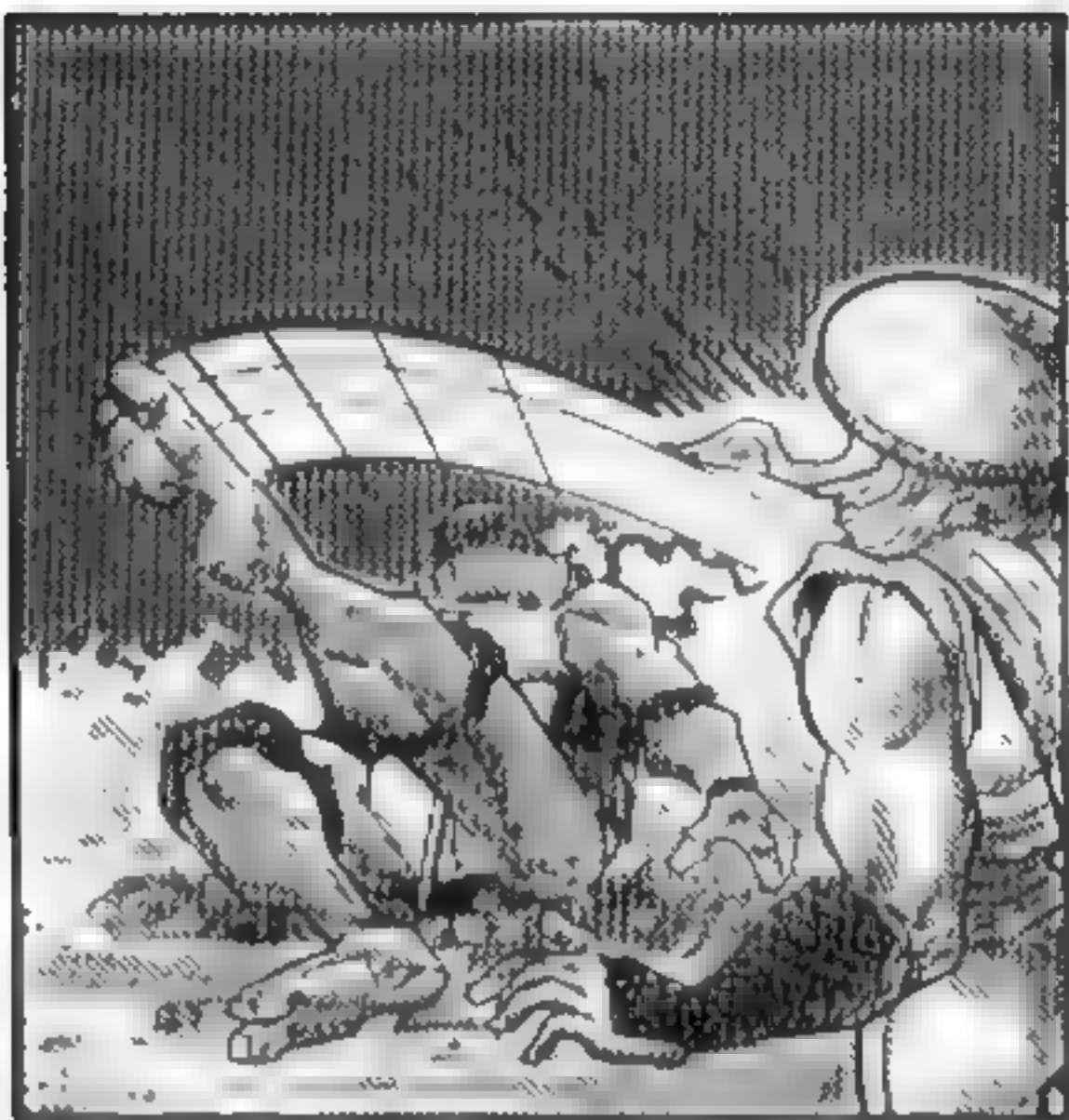


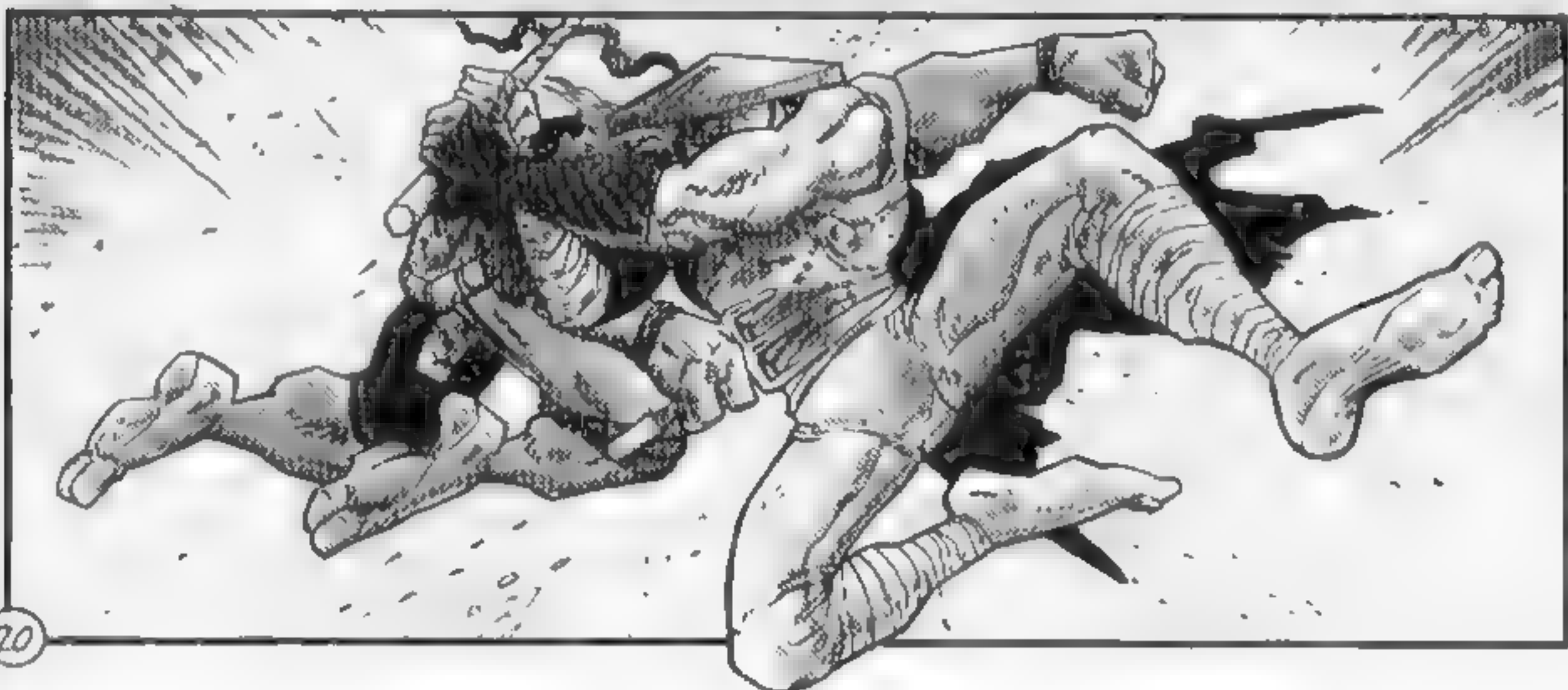
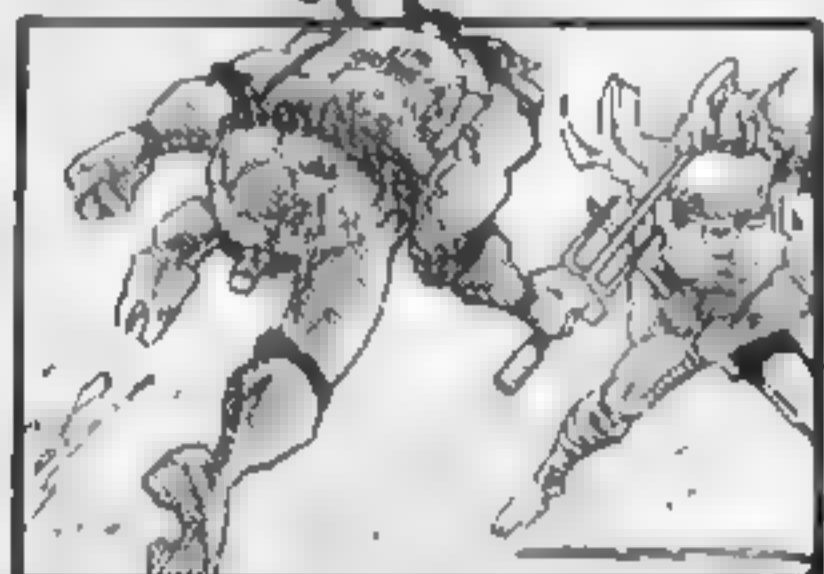
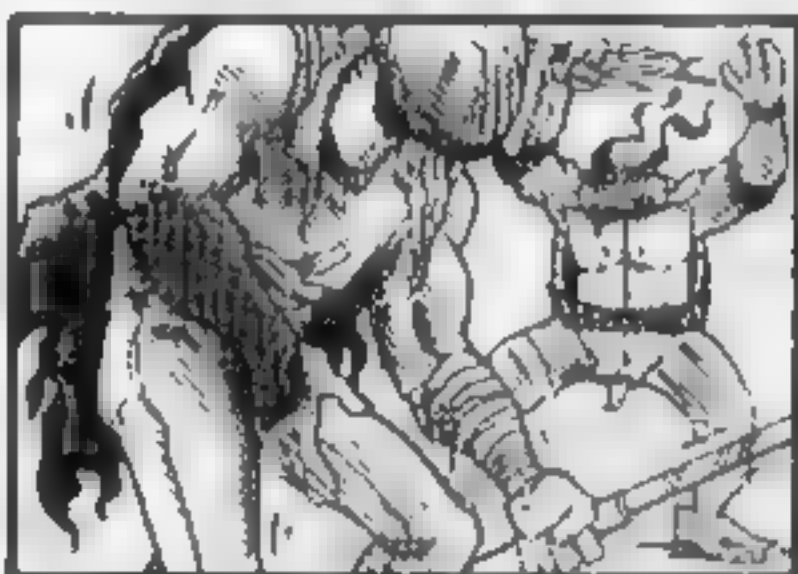
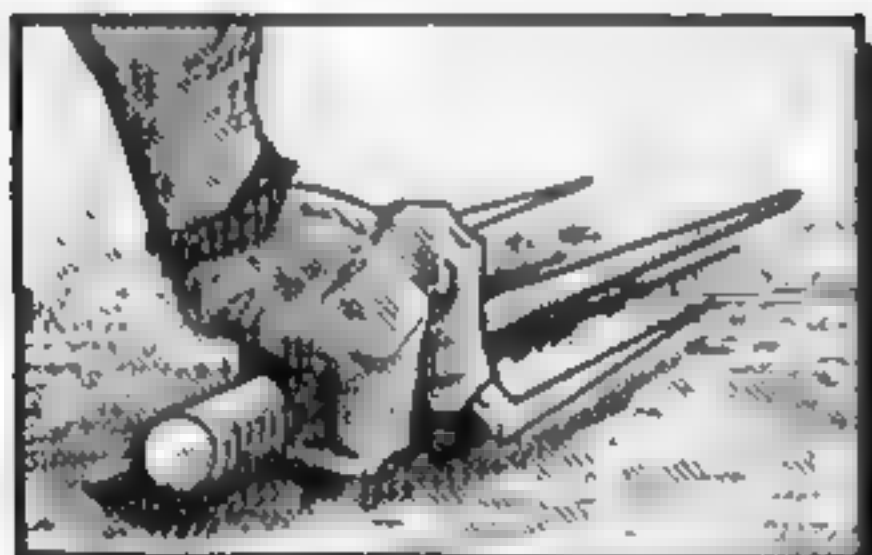












RAFA!

QUE PASO?

ESTAS?

BIEN...

ME
EMBOSCO

ES COMO
LOS TIPOS DE LA
BATALLA EN LA
CALLE!

SI NO ME EQUIVOCO ES DE
LA ELITE GUARDIA DE
DESTRUCTOR. VIMOS A UNO
CUANDO INVADIMOS SU
CUARTEL

PARECE
QUE NOS
CONOCE...

TU
ERES EL
KAPPA

TU MATASTE
A MI
MAESTRO!

SI

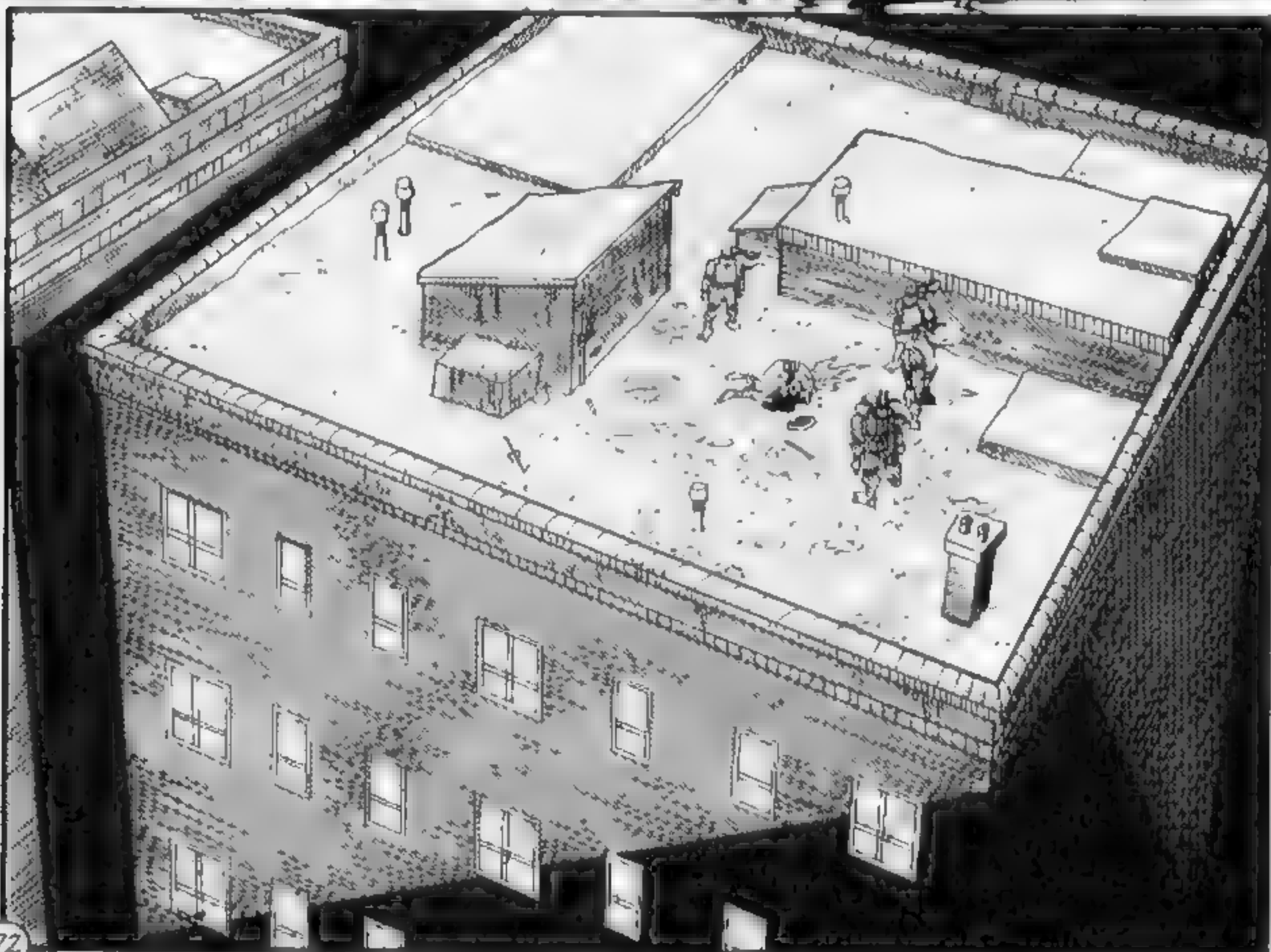
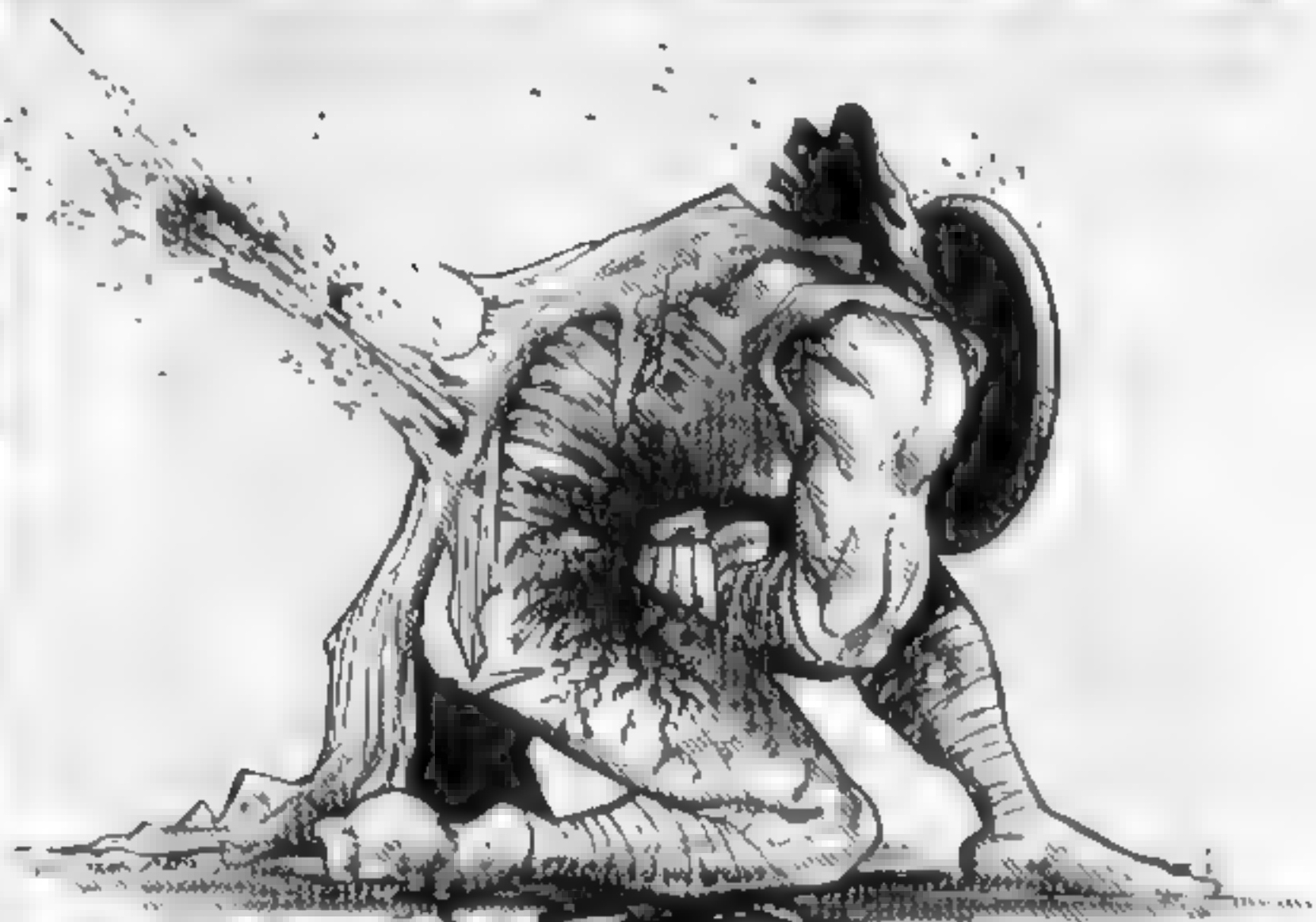
MM?


DEBO
ASESINARTE
PARA VENGAR
A MI SENSEI...

CREO QUE SE
TERMINO TU VIDA
VIEJO!

QUIZAS
EN LA
SIGUIENTE

QUIZAS





QUIZAS ESTOY
AQUÍ PORQUE
TU ME
TRAJISTE...

POR QUE
ESTAS
AQUÍ?

QUIEN
ERES?

TENGO
MUCHOS
NOMBRES...

QUIZAS SOY TU
COMPANÍA...

QUIZAS
SOLO TENIA
QUE ATRAVE-
SAR ESTAS
PAREDES...

PERO CONSI-
DERANDO LA
SITUACIÓN

QUIZAS NO
HAYA OTRO
MAS
APROPIADO...

LLAMAME...

EL REY
RATA



CONTINUARA

TRADUMAQUETACION:

PIPOCHOCO



• LETTERS FROM OUR READERS •

Dear Turtle Crew:

Wow, what can I say, this is a great comic! The action sequences are superb and that's not the half of it. I subscribed to this comic at issue #50, and it is the first black-and-white comic that I subscribe to. What surprised me was the quality of this thing. They're very fine pages and everything was outstanding. I almost recommend it over color, but I can't get that carried away.

The art just couldn't be better. Jim Lawson is becoming one of my favorite artists, and I hope he stays. My favorite turtle has to be Raphael. His attitude is exactly like mine, not to mention I like a quick person (or turtle).

A new fan of your comic is born — me! Keep up the terrific work, guys! P.S. How about "The Shell Station" or "Turtle Grunge" for a letters page title?

Bent
Appleton, WI

Dear Miragers:

Just to let you know; I think publishing TMNT 'Specials', in addition to the 'City at War' continuum, is a most excellent idea. Not least of all because I thoroughly enjoyed *The Haunted Pizza*. Of the many 'alternate' versions of your Turtles, Matt Howarth's is the most amusing; rendered with the absolute minimum number of lines, in such outlandish situations, and he's the only guest artist who's ever shown them working out with weapons other than their most-favored ones. (Plus, I don't mind in the least that he seems to have promoted Donatello to Team Leader!) I hope you print many more of these Specials, and that Howarth is a regular contributor to 'em. I'm also

very much looking forward to the debut of *Plastron Cafe* — the promise of stories about a 'much older Donatello' is intriguing, albeit rather saddening. But don't you worry it'll reduce the tension of the 'present' adventures, if we know for certain that Don, at least, is going to survive?

Incidentally, in answer to Brock Otterbacher's inquiry in the October letter column, I think it is indicated, in issue #21, that Oroku Saki was decapitated. If you take a very close look at the illustration on page 36, you can see the line of severance. I didn't notice it on first reading, either. But I can't believe it's there by accident.

And finally, here's my suggestion for a new title for your letters page; how about 'Shell Sounds'?

As always,

Jennifer Lynn
Weston
Plantation, FL

Dear Mirage Publishing:

In response to the question about the Shredder's death — I think that one of the Turtles said that Leonardo chopped off the Shredder's head. However, I'm not sure in which issue they said that.

'Til later!

Daren Toppin
Vancouver, British
Columbia

Yikes, Brock, what did ya start?? Well, the Shredder's death question is answered once and for all: yes, Leonardo did chop off Oroku Saki's head. Good eye there, Jennifer, for spotting the "line of severance."

Dear Kev & Pete:

On #50, I'd just like to say... LOVED IT! But please tell me that's not Shredder killing the Foot gang. Reason 1: He's dead. Bringing him back once was fine, but don't get into that "That wasn't his body Leo was carrying" thing. Reason 2: What the hell would be his motivation for killing the Foot?

I also heard somewhere that a third TMNT movie was being made. Is this true? If so, is it based on 'City at War'? Even if it's not, I think the current storyline would make a great movie.

John Carr
Barrington, NJ

The third TMNT movie recently finished filming, and will be opening in theaters in March 1993. No, it's not based on 'City at War', but its storyline looks pretty cool. Let's just say that it involves time travel, feudal Japan, samurai warriors & lots of exciting action & fight scenes!

Dear Mirage:

I really enjoy the direction that your 'City at War' series is taking; however, the storyline seems to be dragging a little. I don't understand why the Turtles seem so crippled by indecision and why Splinter isn't with them, to guide them and give them advice. He was always such an integral part of what made the Turtles a team — a spiritual and fatherly guide and master in all disciplines. But I guess this is just my reaction to what you so clearly indicated in #50 with the flying shards of fractured TMNT characters all over the pages: the whole gang is splitting up and growing up on their own. If each unit — i.e. Casey, April, the Turtles, Splinter — must forge its new-

found identity independently, then I guess even Splinter will come to some realizations of his own. I just hope that you don't drive them all too far apart so that they can't reunite again.

Christine Hosselet
Ho Ho Kus, NJ

Dear Mr. Eastman and Mr. Laird:

I am collecting issues of TMNT and though I only have about ten, I enjoy them all. I read both halves of "Shades of Grey" (issues 48-49) and thought it was cool to see Casey, not as a vigilante but as a man still afraid of death. At the end of issue 48, on the last page when Casey is walking out of the graveyard, his mask on the ground has a crack on the right side, dripping something. What is this? Is it blood? If so, how did it get there?

I have subscribed to TMNT for the 'City at War' series. Why did you stop calling the comic 'Eastman and Laird's Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles'? In part 2 (issue 51) how did Shredder get in the hospital?

I think Lawson and Aiken and Craig Farley are great; but I think your version is still the best.

Willy Kaye
Wilmington, DE

So many questions, so little space...well, here goes: the stuff on Casey's mask is blood and it got on there during the fighting; the title change came about because when Peter and Kevin had the logo redesigned, they decided to drop their names — not for any particular reason; and finally, that's not Shredder in the hospital.